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Disappointment with Del Monte's Decision to Cease Operations on Oahu
Two resolutions introduced to assist plantation workers affected by decision

HONOLULU, HI – Honolulu City Council Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz expressed his disappointment with the decision by Del Monte Fresh Produce (Hawaii), Inc. to discontinue its Oahu operations.

"I am sad to hear that Del Monte has decided to cease operations on Oahu," said City Council Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz. "The company has had such a prominent role in our agriculture industry, as a producer and employer, so this news is very disappointing. Now, however, we must look at helping those most affected by this move, namely, the employees and Del Monte plantation residents who face displacement."

Recognizing the importance of plantation communities, Council Chair Dela Cruz introduced Resolutions 06-032 and 06-033. Resolution 06-032 recognizes the historic and cultural significance of the plantation era and expresses the City Council's support for the preservation of residential homes in former plantation-owned housing areas. Resolution 06-033 proposes an amendment to the City's subdivision ordinance allowing the establishment of plantation community subdivisions in a current or former sugar or pineapple plantation community, as long as the following conditions are met: 1) A sugar or pineapple plantation has provided housing for its workers which developed into a plantation community; 2) The plantation community has existed for at least 50 years; 3) The fee title of each proposed lot within the plantation community on which the housing improvements exist is to be conveyed in fee simple to the former employees of the sugar or pineapple plantation.

Honolulu City Council Chair Donovan M. Dela Cruz represents Council District 2, which includes Mililani Mauka, Wahiawa, Whitmore Village, Mokuleia, Waialua, Haleiwa, Waimea, Pupukea, Sunset Beach, Kahuku, Laie, Hauula, Punaluu, Kahana, Kasawa, Kualoa, Waiahole, Kahaluu, Ahuimanu, and a portion of Heeia.
